

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-62, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and add Claims 63-73. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claims 1 - 62 (canceled)

Claim 63 (new): A printing system having an external apparatus for generating printing data corresponding to an image to be printed and a printing apparatus for performing printing by discharging ink from a printhead to be attached, and said printing systems performs printing with said printing apparatus on the basis of the printing data to be output from the external apparatus,

wherein the printing apparatus comprises:

output means for outputting discharge amount information of ink discharge amount of the printhead and identification information unique to the printhead, which are stored in storage means mounted on the printhead, to said external apparatus according to a request from said external apparatus, and

the external apparatus comprises:

image processing means for processing the printing data;

input means for inputting the discharge amount information and the identification information output by said output means of said printing apparatus;

setting means for setting a processing parameter for processing by said image processing means on the basis of the discharge amount information input by said input means; and

management means for managing the processing parameter set by said setting means on the basis of the discharge amount information for the printhead, and the identification information for the printhead in correspondence with each other, and

wherein a) when the identification information input by said input means is managed by said management means, said setting means performs a process by said image processing means using the processing parameter corresponding to the identification information, and b) when the identification information input by said input means is not managed by said management means, said setting means sets the processing parameter on the basis of the discharge amount information output by said output means of said printing apparatus and performs a process by said image processing means using the set processing parameter.

Claim 64 (new): The system according to claim 63, wherein said external apparatus transmits a signal requesting the identification information to said printing apparatus according to a printing start instruction, and

when the identification information is not managed by said management means said setting means transmits a signal requesting the discharge amount information to said printing apparatus.

Claim 65 (new): The system according to claim 63, wherein said output means outputs the discharge amount information and the identification information when the printhead is exchanged.

Claim 66 (new): An information processing apparatus for inputting printing data to a printing apparatus for performing printing by discharging ink from a printhead, comprising:

image processing means for processing the printing data;

input means for requesting the printing apparatus and inputting discharge amount information of ink discharge amount of the printhead and identification information unique to the printhead, which are stored in storage means mounted on the printhead, from said printing apparatus, and

setting means for setting a processing parameter for processing by said image processing means on the basis of the discharge amount information input by said input means; and

management means for managing the processing parameter set by said setting means on the basis of the discharge amount information for the printhead, and the identification information for the printhead in correspondence with each other, and

wherein a) when the identification information input by said input means is managed by said management means, said setting means performs a process by said image processing means using the processing parameter corresponding to the identification information,

and b) when the identification information input by said input means is not managed by said management means, said setting means sets the processing parameter on the basis of the discharge amount information input by said input means and performs a process by said image processing means using the set processing parameter.

Claim 67 (new): The apparatus according to claim 66, wherein said external apparatus transmits a signal requesting the identification information to said printing apparatus according to a printing start instruction, and

when the identification information is not managed by said management means, said setting means transmits a signal requesting the discharge amount information to said printing apparatus.

Claim 68 (new): A control method for printing system having an external apparatus for generating printing data corresponding to an image to be printed and a printing apparatus for performing printing by discharging ink from a printhead to be attached to the printing apparatus, comprising:

an output step of outputting discharge amount information of ink discharge amount of the printhead and identification information unique to the printhead, which are stored in storage means mounted on the printhead, to said external apparatus according to a request from said external apparatus;

an input step of inputting the discharge amount information and the identification information output in said output step to said external apparatus; and

a setting step of setting a processing parameter for processing by image processing means of the external apparatus on the basis of the discharge amount information input in said input step,

wherein the external apparatus manages the processing parameter set in said setting step on the basis of the discharge amount information for the printhead, and the identification information for the printhead in correspondence with each other, and

wherein a) when the identification information input in said input step is managed by the external apparatus, said setting step includes performing a process by the image processing means using the processing parameter corresponding to the identification information, and b) when the identification information input in said input step is not managed by the external apparatus, said setting step includes setting the processing parameter on the basis of the discharge amount information output in said output step of the printing apparatus and performing a process by the image processing means using the set processing parameter.

Claim 69 (new): The method according to claim 68, wherein the external apparatus transmits a signal requesting the identification information to the printing apparatus according to a printing start instruction, and

when the identification information is not managed by the external apparatus, said setting step includes transmitting a signal requesting the discharge amount information to the printing apparatus.

Claim 70 (new): The method according to claim 68, wherein said output step includes outputting the discharge amount information and the identification information when the printhead is exchanged.

Claim 71 (new): A control method for an information processing apparatus for inputting printing data to a printing apparatus for performing printing by discharging ink from a printhead, comprising:

an image processing step of processing the printing data;

an input step of requesting the printing apparatus and inputting discharge amount information of ink discharge amount of the printhead and identification information unique to the printhead, which are stored in storage means mounted on the printhead, from the printing apparatus;

a setting step of setting a processing parameter for processing in said image processing step on the basis of the discharge amount information input in said input step; and

a management step of managing the processing parameter set in said setting step on the basis of the discharge amount information for the printhead, and the identification information for the printhead in correspondence with each other,

wherein a) when the identification information input in said input step is managed in said management step, said setting step includes performing a process in said image processing step using the processing parameter corresponding to the identification information, and b) when the identification information input in said input step is not managed in said management step, said setting step includes setting the processing parameter on the basis of the discharge amount information input in said input step and performing a process in said image processing step using the set processing parameter.

Claim 72 (new): The method according to claim 71, wherein a signal requesting the identification information is transmitted to the printing apparatus according to a printing start instruction, and

when the identification information is not managed in said management step, said setting step includes transmitting a signal requesting the discharge amount information to the printing apparatus.

Claim 73 (new): The method according to claim 71, wherein the discharge amount information and the identification information is outputted from the printing apparatus when the printhead is exchanged.